

*San Luis Obispo County
Department of Social Services*



*A Snapshot of Children
in Foster Care*

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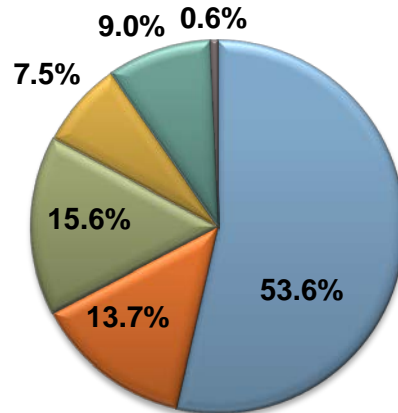
San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services

Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: City/Region and Placement Type

Placement Types

- Relative / NREFM Home
- Foster Family Agency Home
- Foster Family Home
- Group Home
- Guardian Home
- Small Family Home



Approximately 54% of all children in foster care under DSS supervision are placed with relatives or with non-relative extended family members (NREFM). This is considered the most beneficial type of care for children who cannot be left in their own homes.

San Luis Obispo consistently ranks among the highest of all counties in California in this measure.

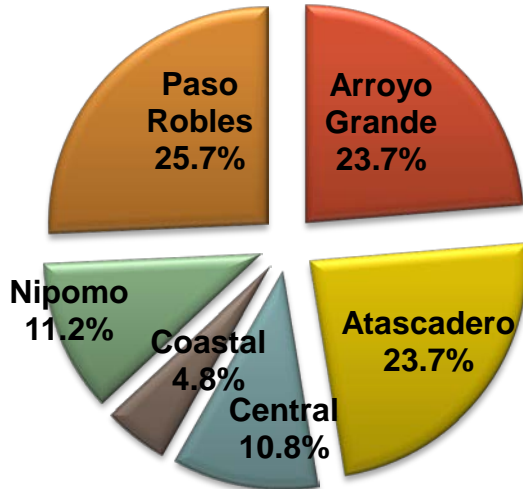
| CITY | Relative / NREFM Home | Foster Family Agency Home | Foster Family Home | Group Home | Guardian Home | Small Family Home | Sum |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|
| Arroyo Grande | 11 | 10 | 1 | | 5 | | 27 |
| Atascadero | 18 | 7 | 9 | | 8 | | 42 |
| California Valley | | | 3 | | | | 3 |
| Creston | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | 6 |
| Grover Beach | 17 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | | 21 |
| Los Osos | 1 | | | | 2 | | 3 |
| Morro Bay | 4 | 3 | 1 | | 1 | | 9 |
| Nipomo | 19 | 1 | 5 | | 2 | 1 | 28 |
| Oceano | 9 | | | | | | 9 |
| Paso Robles | 22 | 6 | 13 | | 9 | 1 | 51 |
| Pismo Beach | 1 | | 1 | | | | 2 |
| San Luis Obispo | 11 | 5 | 6 | 5 | | | 27 |
| San Miguel | 6 | 2 | 1 | | 1 | | 10 |
| Shandon | 3 | | | | | | 3 |
| Templeton | 1 | | 6 | | | | 7 |
| Santa Margarita | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Out of County | 43 | 7 | | 16 | | | 66 |
| Out of State | 3 | | | 3 | | | 6 |
| Sum | 172 | 44 | 50 | 24 | 29 | 2 | 321 |

San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services

Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: Regional Office Overview of In-County Placements

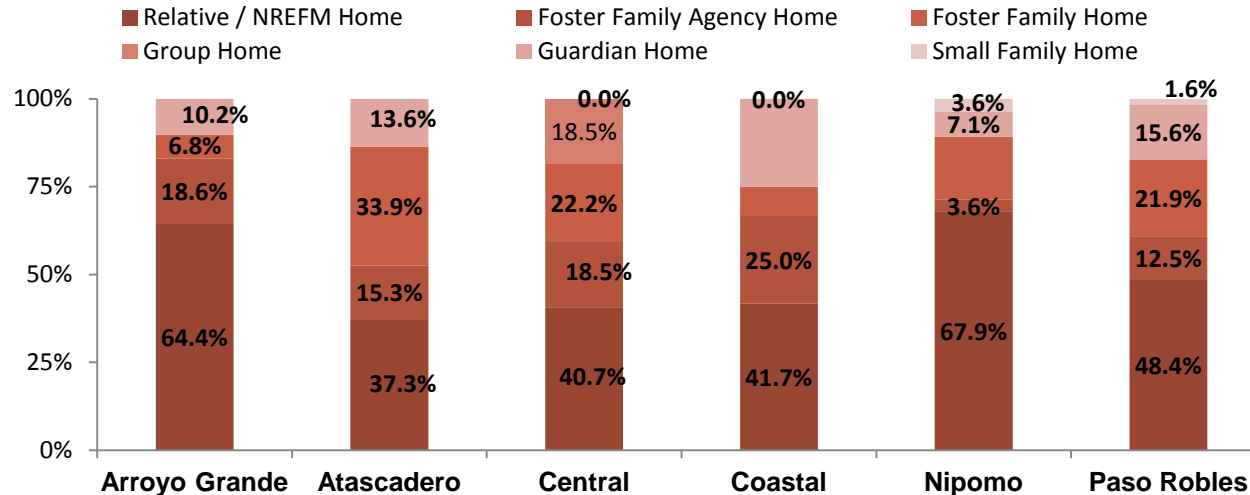
In-County Foster Care Placements by Region



Note: Data on this page excludes children placed outside of San Luis Obispo County. There are currently 249 children placed in SLO County, 66 placed in other California counties and 6 placed out of state.

| REGIONAL OFFICE | Relative / NREFM Home | Foster Family Agency Home | Foster Family Home | Group Home | Guardian Home | Small Family Home | Sum |
|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|
| Arroyo Grande | 38 | 11 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 59 |
| Atascadero | 22 | 9 | 20 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 59 |
| Central | 11 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| Coastal | 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 12 |
| Nipomo | 19 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 28 |
| Paso Robles | 31 | 8 | 14 | 0 | 10 | 1 | 64 |
| In-County Total | 126 | 37 | 50 | 5 | 29 | 2 | 249 |

Placement Types by Regional Office

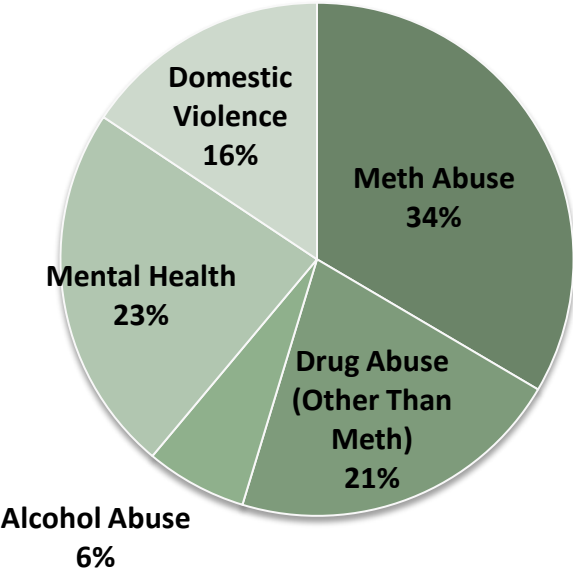


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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE: Reasons for Foster Care Placement and Contributing Factors

Contributing Factors

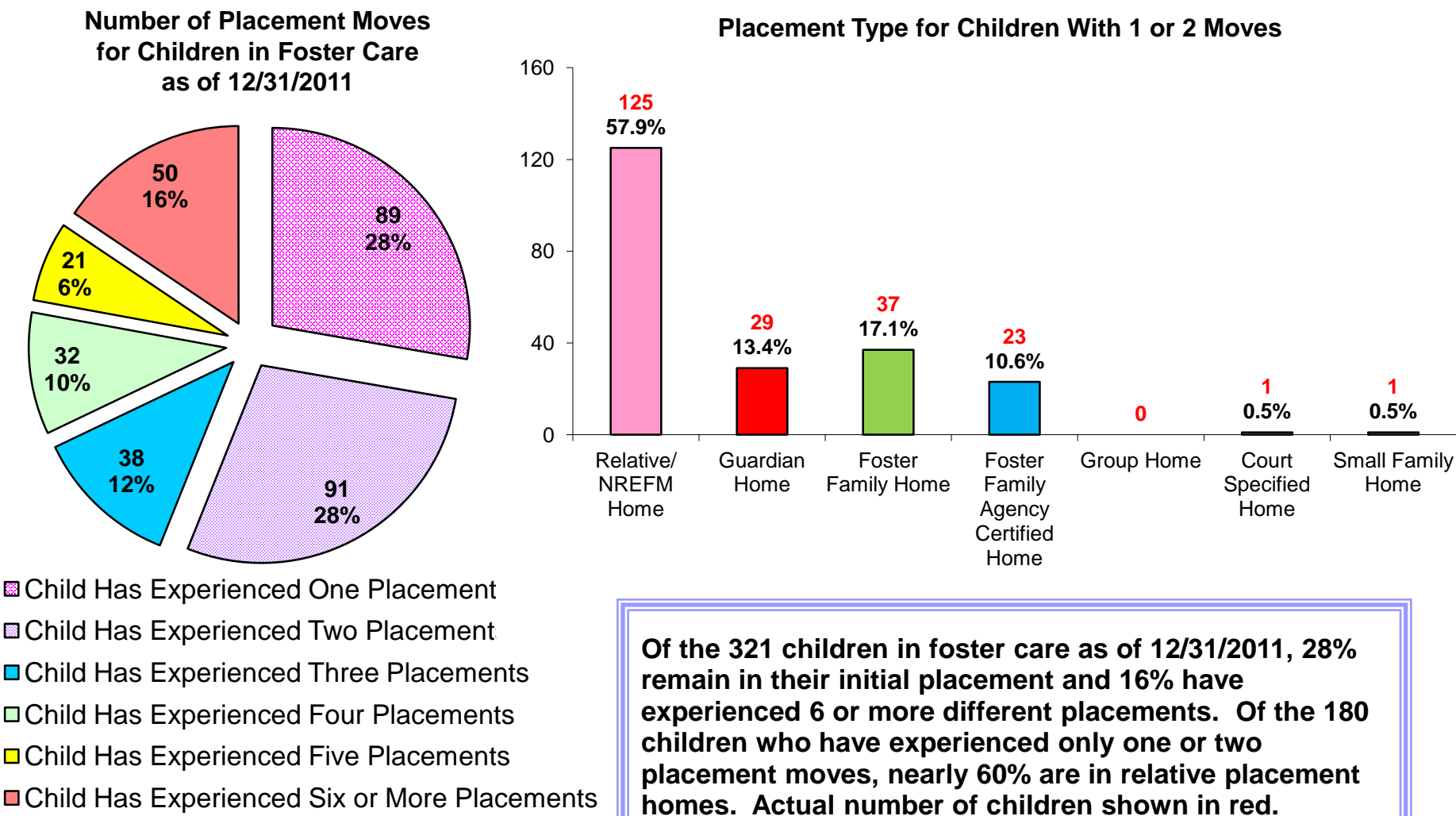


| REASON FOR INITIAL PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE AS OF 12/31/2011 | | |
|--|-----|-------|
| General Neglect | 194 | 60.4% |
| Care Taker Absence/Incapacity | 91 | 28.3% |
| Physical Abuse | 16 | 5.0% |
| Sexual Abuse | 6 | 1.9% |
| Emotional Abuse | 5 | 1.6% |
| Severe Neglect | 5 | 1.6% |
| Relinquishment | 3 | 0.9% |
| Safely Surrendered Baby | 1 | 0.3% |
| Sum | 321 | |

As of 12/31/2011, there were 321 SLO County children in foster care placements. The Contributing Factors chart illustrates that more than half of the parents whose children were from them due to abuse and/or neglect have drug and/or alcohol abuse factors. Methamphetamine Abuse, Other Drug Abuse, and Mental Health issues are the most common factors. As of 12/31/2011, approximately 61% of all foster care cases have a drug or alcohol abuse factor. Many of these have a combination of factors including drug or alcohol abuse, mental health issues, and domestic violence.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE – Number of Placement Moves
Family-to-Family Outcome: Fewer placement moves for children in foster care.



San Luis Obispo County Department of Social Services Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

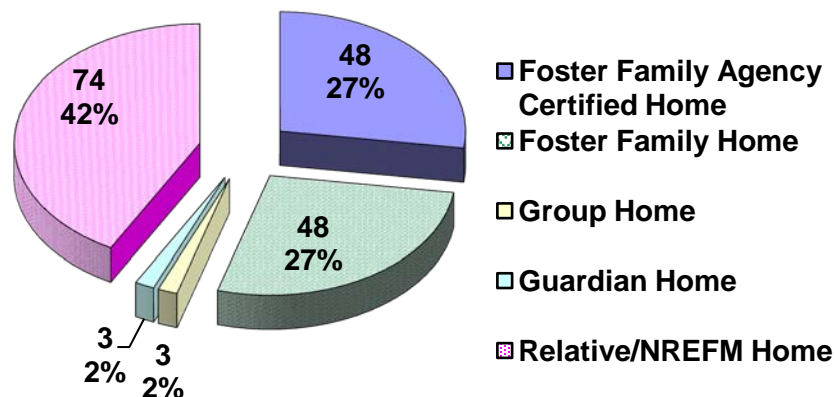
*April is Child Abuse
Prevention Month*

*Wear a blue ribbon to
show support for the
cause.*

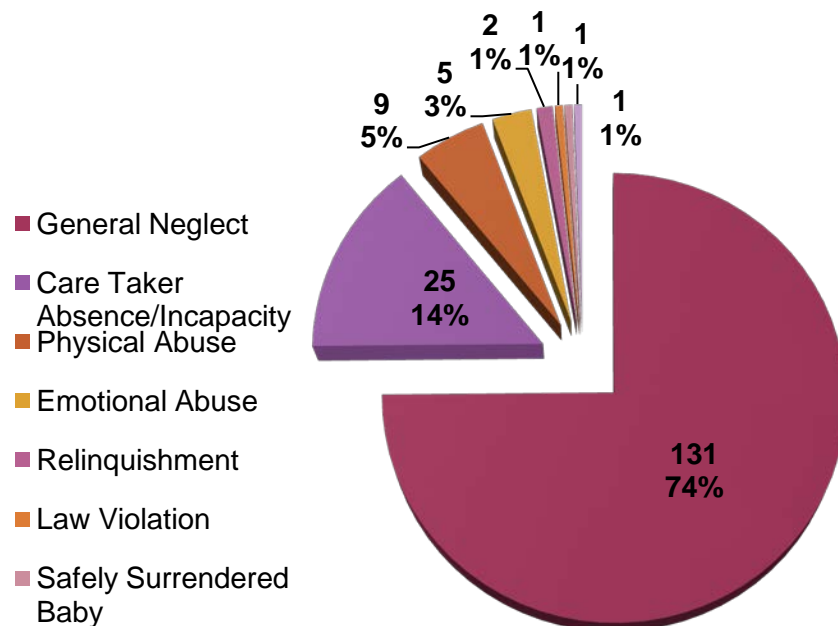


CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE – Initial (New) Placements

| Placement Type | 2011 Total | % |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------|
| Relative/NREFM Home | 74 | 42.0% |
| Foster Family Home | 48 | 27.3% |
| Foster Family Agency Certified Home | 48 | 27.3% |
| Group Home | 3 | 1.7% |
| Guardian Home | 3 | 1.7% |
| | 176 | |



Initial Placements - Reasons for Removal



Between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011 a total of 176 children were separated from their parents and placed into foster care. Of those, 0 children remained in placement for eight days or less, and 121 children still remain in the initial placements. The remaining 55 children have been moved at least once since the initial placement.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

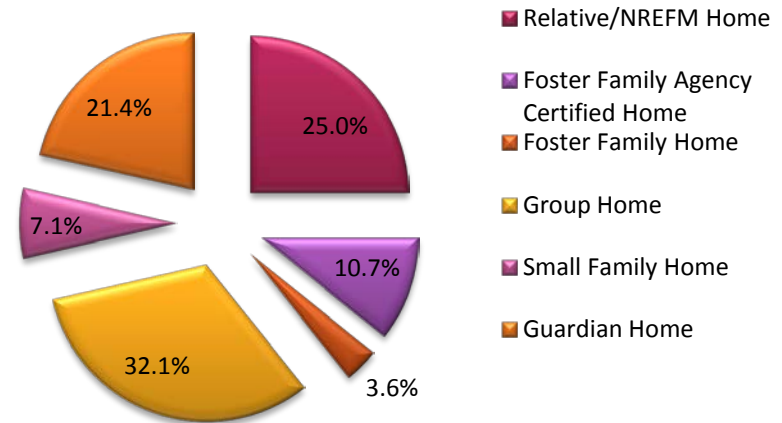


LENGTH OF TIME IN FOSTER CARE

Family-to-Family Outcome: Shorter length of stay in foster care.

| Years in Foster Care | # of Children | Percentage |
|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| 0 to 1 Year | 148 | 46.4% |
| 1 to 2 Years | 94 | 29.5% |
| 2 to 3 years | 27 | 8.5% |
| 3 to 4 Years | 16 | 5.0% |
| 4 to 5 Years | 5 | 1.6% |
| 5 Years or Longer | 29 | 9.1% |

Placement Types for Children in Foster Care Five Years or Longer



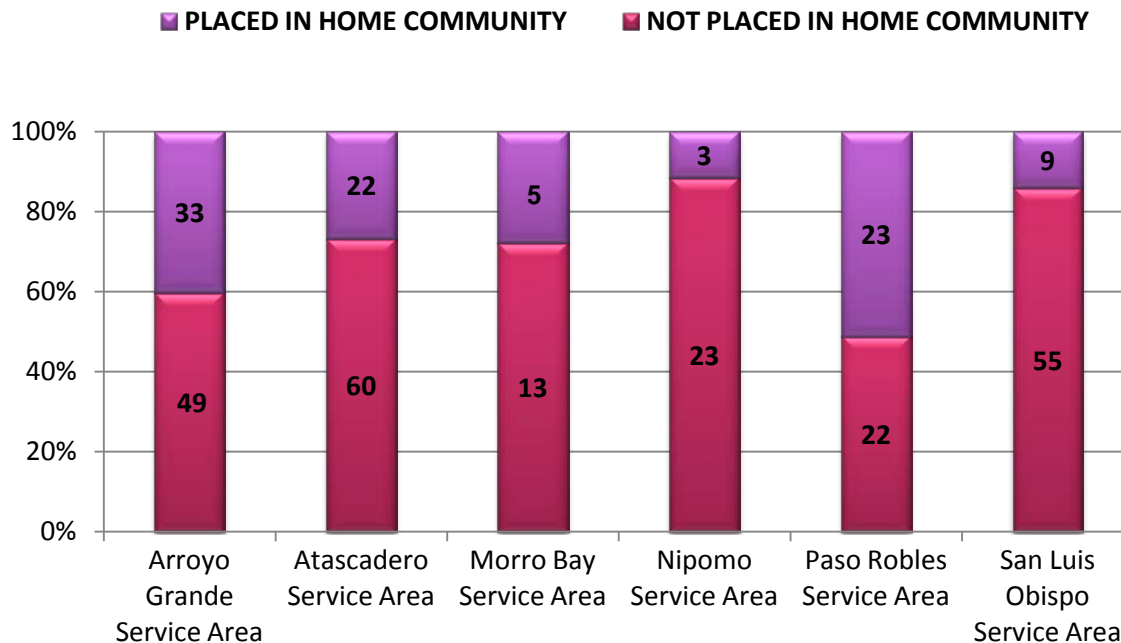
San Luis Obispo County's goal is to transition children out of foster care to safe and stable families in the shortest possible time. As of 12/31/2011, 76% have been in foster care for less than two years, and 24% for more than two years.

| In Foster Care Five Years or Longer | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Place Home Facility Type | GIRLS | BOYS | Total |
| Relative/NREFM Home | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Foster Family Agency Certified Home | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Foster Family Home | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Group Home | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Small Family Home | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Guardian Home | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| Court Specified Home | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Sum | 15 | 14 | 29 |

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN WITHIN THEIR HOME COMMUNITY



For children who must be in Foster Care, placements with a relative or extended family member within the child's home community is the best possible option.

All cities in the county are included in one of the six service areas shown on the chart. For example, the Arroyo Grande area includes Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Shell Beach and Oceano.

Note: Ideal Service Area codes are not assigned in all cases, so the data in this chart represents only 317 of the 321 children in foster care as of 12/31/2011. On an overall average, 30% are placed in their home community and 70% are not.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN WITH THEIR SIBLINGS

Family-to-Family Outcome: More siblings placed together.

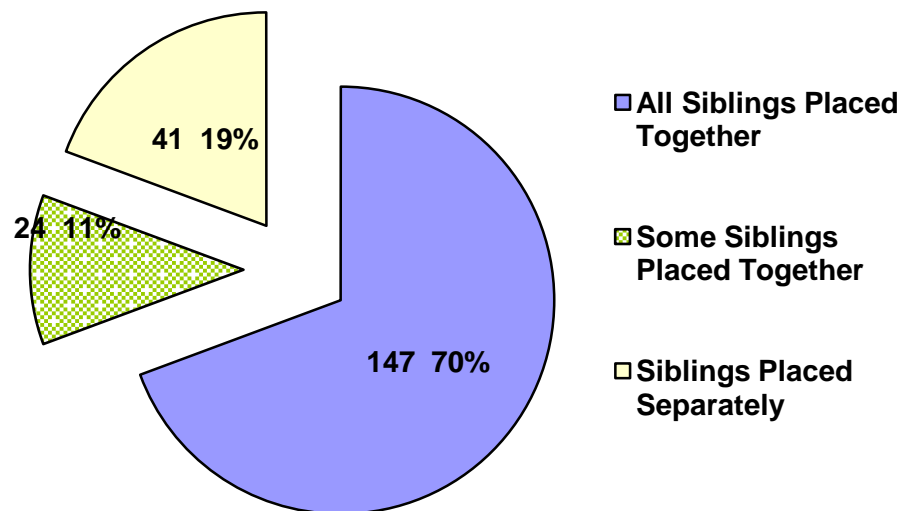


As Of October 1, 2011

| | |
|--|------------|
| All Children in Foster Care Who Have Siblings | 212 |
| All Siblings Placed Together | 147 |
| Some Siblings Placed Together | 24 |
| Siblings Placed Separately | 41 |

The most current statistics available for sibling placements are dated October 1, 2011, at which time there were 212 children in placement who have one or more siblings. Of those, 147 (70%) were placed with all or some of their siblings.

Studies show that maintaining sibling relationships is of vital importance to the wellbeing of children. Oftentimes, children who are abused or neglected by their caregivers form especially strong ties to one another. The emotional support of the sibling bond may nurture a sense of stability and continuity and help to provide a sense of safety for children in foster care placements.



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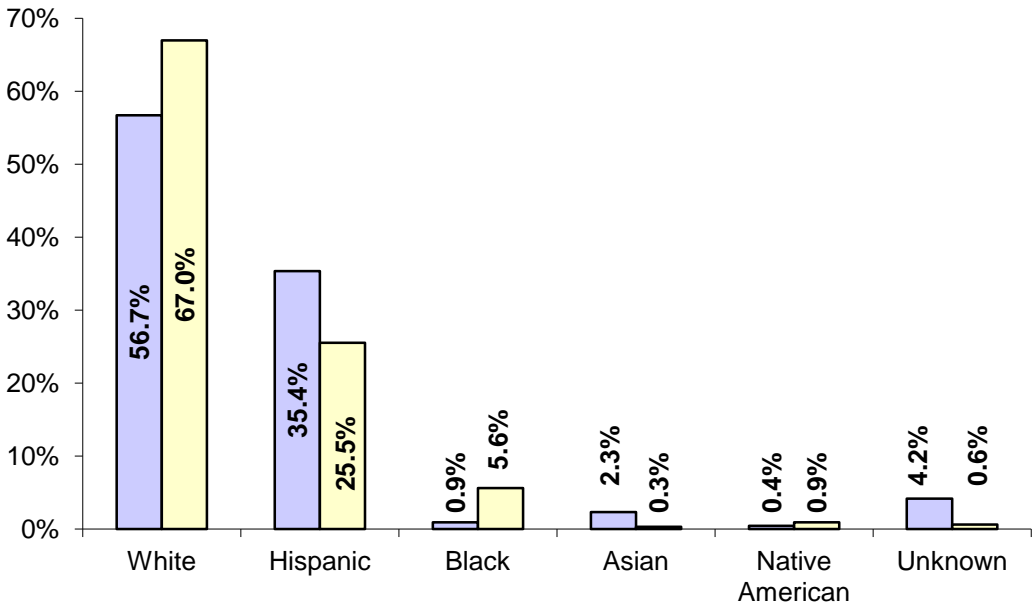
Snapshot of Children in Foster Care



ETHNIC GROUPS AGE 0-18
Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with race/ethnicity.

Ethnic Groups - Children Age 0-18

■ Ethnic Groups as % of County Population
■ Children in Placement



Note: There are comparatively very few Black, Asian, and Native American children who are in Foster Care in SLO County. Therefore, the percentages fluctuate significantly with only minor changes in the numbers. The actual number of children in Foster Care compared to total population is shown in red on the chart below.

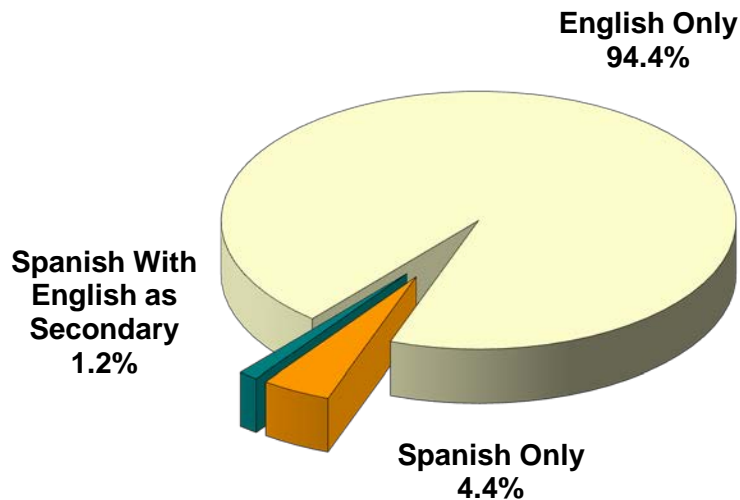
| | # of Children in Placement | Age 0-18 Population |
|-----------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| White | 215 | 28844 |
| Hispanic | 82 | 17986 |
| Black | 18 | 476 |
| Asian | 1 | 1187 |
| Native American | 3 | 221 |
| Other/Unknown | 2 | 2127 |
| Total | 321 | 50841 |

The Department consistently works to minimize potential disparity through the use of evidence-based practice and the provision of staff training.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

LANGUAGE



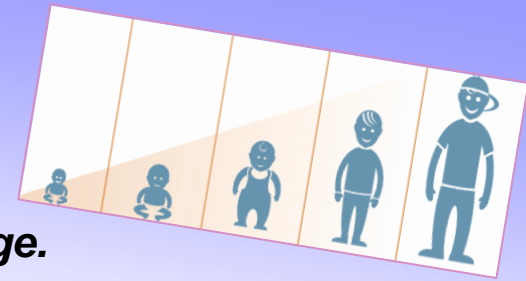
There are currently 18 children in Foster Care (5.6% of the total 321) who speak Spanish as their primary language. As of 12/31/2011, these children were placed as shown in the chart to the right. As with all placements, every effort is made to place monolingual children with relatives or extended family members in their home communities, and to ensure that they are placed with adults who are able to communicate with them.

Placement and Facility Type for Children Whose Primary Language is Spanish

| | Relative/ NREFM Home | Guardian Home | Group Home | Foster Family Home | Sum |
|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----|
| Atascadero | | 2 | | | 2 |
| Paso Robles | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 3 |
| San Miguel | 3 | | | | 3 |
| Templeton | | | | 1 | 1 |
| San Luis Obispo | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Nipomo | 3 | | | | 3 |
| Arroyo Grande | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Out of County | 3 | | 1 | | 4 |
| | 11 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 18 |

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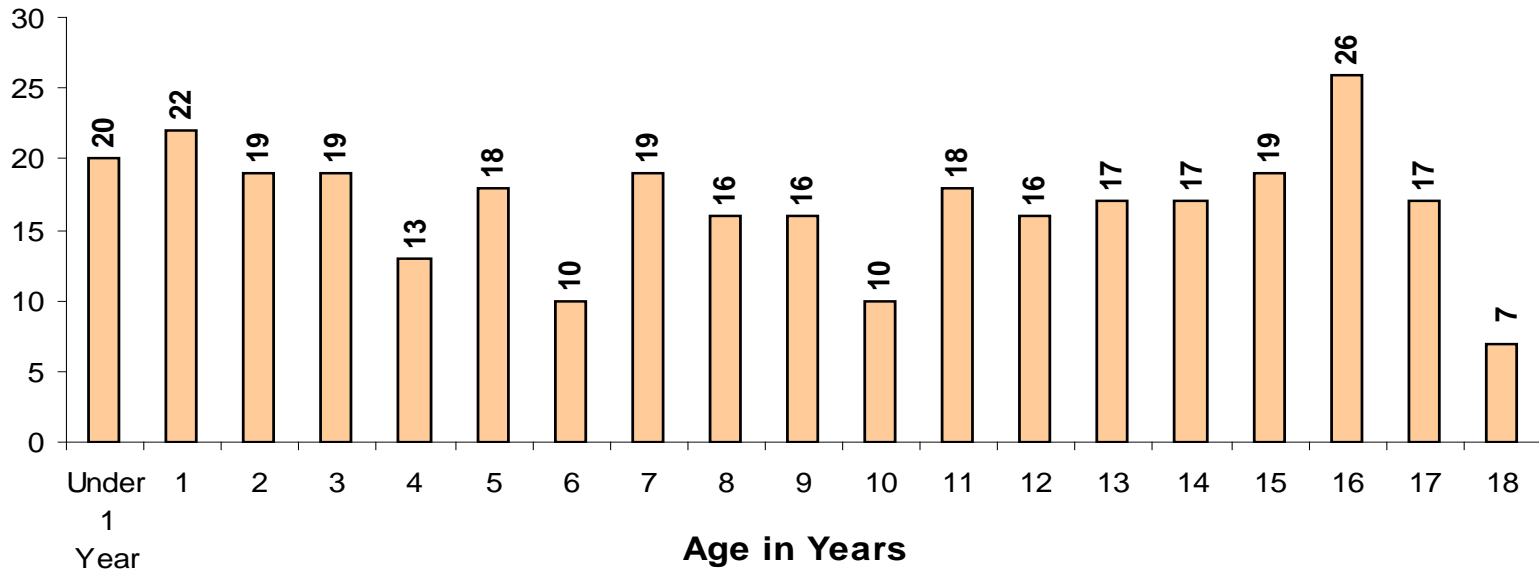
Snapshot of Children in Foster Care



AGE DISPARITIES

Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with age.

Number of Children in Foster Care by Age



The chart above illustrates that San Luis Obispo County still has a slightly disproportionate number of older teens in placement. There are currently 103 teenagers in foster care, approximately 31% of the total of 321.

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Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

TEENS Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with age.

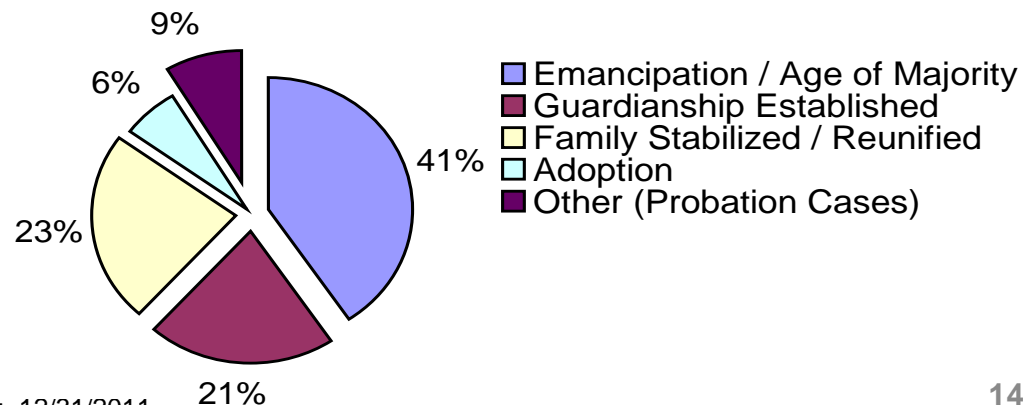
103 San Luis Obispo County Teens were in Foster Care as of 12/31/2011



| Region | Placement Facility Type as of 12/31/2011 | | | | | | Total |
|-----------------------|--|---|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| | Relative/ NREFM Home | Foster Family Agency Certified Home | Foster Family Home | Group Home | Guardian Home | Small Family Home | |
| Central/Coastal | 5 | 6 | | 5 | 2 | | 18 |
| North | 16 | 10 | 3 | | 9 | 1 | 39 |
| South | 13 | 3 | 1 | | 3 | 1 | 21 |
| Other than SLO County | 7 | 2 | | 16 | | | 25 |
| Sum: | 41 | 21 | 4 | 21 | 14 | 2 | 103 |

Of the 321 children in foster care as of 12/31/2011, 103 (31%) are age 13 or older. The number of teens in placement is consistent with the 2010 data, when 100 of 316 (32%) children in foster care were teens. A total of 32 teen foster care cases were closed between 1/1/2011 and 12/31/2011. Of the 32 cases closed, 60% were closed due to the teen emancipating or reaching the age of majority.

**Reasons for Closing Teen Foster Care Cases
Between 1/1/2011 and 12/31/2011**



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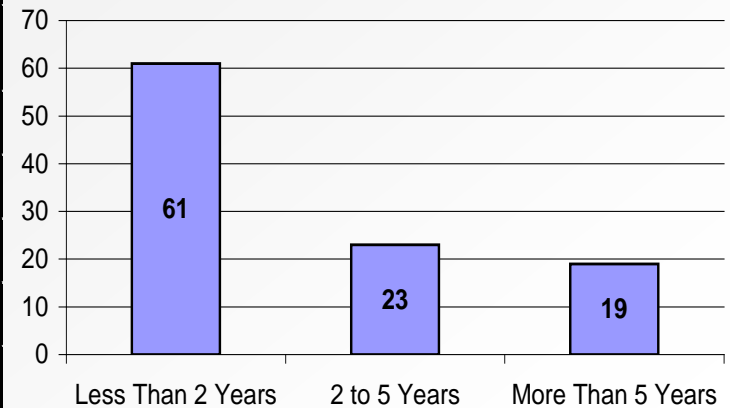
Snapshot of Children in Foster Care

TEENS Family-to-Family Outcome: Reduce disparities associated with age.

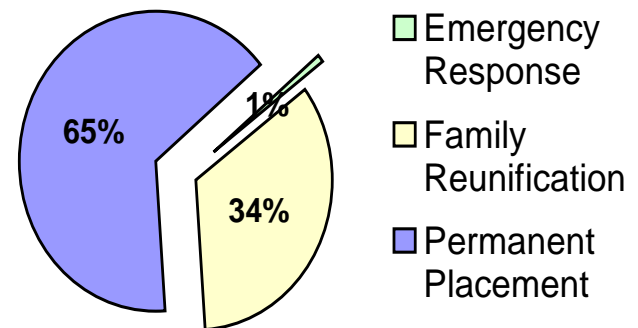
| Placement Types for Teens in Foster Care | Emergency Response | Family Reunification | Permanent Placement | Sum |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----|
| Relative/NREFM Home | 1 | 18 | 22 | 41 |
| Foster Family Agency Certified Home | | 11 | 10 | 21 |
| Foster Family Home | | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Group Home | | 4 | 14 | 18 |
| Guardian Home | | | 14 | 14 |
| Small Family Home | | | 2 | 2 |
| Court Specified Home | | | 3 | 3 |
| Sum | 1 | 35 | 67 | 103 |

Our efforts focus on changing the ideals, concepts and philosophies of Permanency to proactive planning and best practices. It is our commitment to ensure that each youth who leaves foster care has permanent lifelong connections with caring, committed adults. We actively search for extended family members and facilitate contacts with siblings who have been separated. Every youth in Foster Care who is age 16 or older will have a Transitional Independent Living Plan which includes services designed to assist them with education and career planning, housing, money management skills, and social skills.

Length of Stay for 103 Teens in Foster Care



Current Case Service Components for Teens in Foster Care



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Snapshot Children in Foster Care

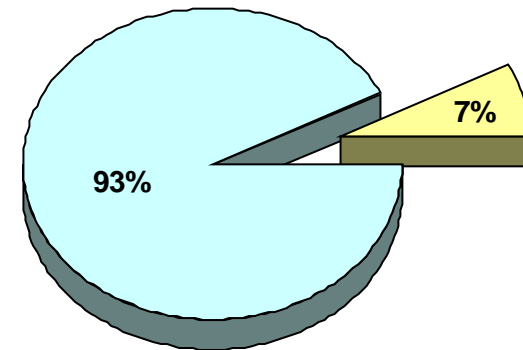
MEDICAL CONDITIONS

| Medical Conditions of Children in Foster Care | % of Children Affected | Total # Children Affected |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Upper Respiratory Infection / Bronchitis | 51.6% | 157 |
| Mental / Emotional / Behavioral | 36.8% | 112 |
| Vision / Hearing / Speech Impairment | 19.1% | 58 |
| Cavities / Dental Caries / Malocclusion | 40.8% | 124 |
| Dermatitis / Other Skin Conditions | 15.1% | 46 |
| Prenatal Drug / Alcohol Exposure | 12.8% | 39 |
| Other Physical Health Issues | 61.5% | 187 |

Approximately 93% of children currently in Foster Care have one or more physical or mental health conditions requiring treatment. The chart shows some of the more common conditions. Some children have multiple conditions (so the percentages do not add up to 100%). The Other Physical Health Issues category includes children in care who have diabetes, cerebral palsy, seizures, congenital heart disease, scoliosis, and a wide range of other conditions. This data is based upon CWS/CMS case records of the 321 children in foster care as of 12/31/2011.



| | |
|--|-----|
| # in Placement | 321 |
| Children with Medical Condition Noted | 297 |
| Children With No Medical Condition Noted | 24 |



■ Children with Medical Condition Noted

■ Children With No Medical Condition Noted